Non-Conventional Energy Sources in North-East

573. DR. B.B. DUTTA: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken so far to encourage the non-conventional energy sources in the country particularly in North-eastern States;

(b) the total amount spent thereon during last five years;

(c) whether Government are satisfied with the achievements made in this regard; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (CAPT. JAI NARAIN PRASAD NISHAD): (a) The Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources is implementing a wide range of programmes to generate and utilise non-conventional energy such as Biogas plants, Improved Chulhas, Biomass gasification and Briquetting plants. Solar Thermal Water Heating, both domestic and industrial, Solar Photovoltaic energy based rural hom-lighting, lanterns, water pumping for irrigation and village level power plants, grid connected power from Wind Energy, Small Hydro, Biomass Combustion, Bagasse-based Co-generation and Solar Photovoltaic Energy and electrical power from Urban and Industrial Wastes, throughout the country including North-Eastern State;

(b) The total amount spent by this Ministry during last five years, is Rs. 982 crores in the country and Rs. 5.22 crores for North-Eastern States.

(c) and (d) The Government is generally satisfied with the progress of utilisation of non-conventional energy sources in the country. However, on account of remoteness and difficult logistics of hilly regions, Islands and North-Eastern States are provided higher subsidy/incentive in view of higher capital cost. The Ministry has initiated New Initiatives exclusively for North-Eastern States' and earmarked 10% of the net budgetary support for the year 1997-98 for taking up major programmes such as biogas plants, improved chulhas, integrated rural energy programmes, small hydro power and solar photovoltaic programmes in North-Eastern States.

Solar Energy Plants in Hilly Areas of U.P.

574. SHRI MANOHAR KANT DHYANI: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up solar energy plants in nine districts of the hilly areas of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details of the assistance provided for this purpose; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIOAL ENERGY SOURCES (CAPT. JAI NARAIN PRASAD NISHAD): (a) The Non-conventional Energy Development Agency of U.P. proposes to installed 3437 solar lanterns, 4120 home lighting systems and 550 solar cookers in the Hill Districts of U.P. during 1997-98. In addition, solar water heating systems with an aggregate capacity of 10,000 litres per day and also proposed to be installed.

(b) Under its solar photovoltaic programme of the Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources provides subsidy to the extent of Rs. 1,500 per solar lantern, Rs. 6,000 per home lighting system, Rs. 12,000 per street lighting system and Rs. 2.0 lakhs per kWp for small Power Plants.

In addition a special additional subsidy of Rs. 500 on solar lanterns, Rs. 1500 on